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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-19

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 048-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0

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☒	Third Party Rule	This information cannot be used, duplicated or disseminated without approval from the author.

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-19 at 1230 hours.

The format of this Situation Report delineates between police information and information gathered through open sources. Media and social media information has been incorporated in this report towards developing all-source intelligence in support of providing greater context, and which may identify indicators, ideologies, and attitudes that could motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours.

OTTAWA: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

- The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) is continuing enforcement at the blockade. Arrests and the removal of vehicles are ongoing.
- The OPS reports that water bottles marked with black stripes are being distributed to the protestors, who do not appear to be drinking from them. These bottles contain an unknown liquid and may represent an officer safety threat.
- OPP reporting indicates that attempts are being made to organize a bus to take people to Ottawa from Dunnville on 2022-02-20, departing Dunnville at 0600 hours and returning from Ottawa at 1700 hours. OPP continues to follow up.

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OTTAWA: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

- A Tweet shared on Randy HILLIER's Twitter page with a video of the police horses deployed as part of the enforcement states that the media is portraying the protestors as violent when there are videos like the one being shared depicting police actions. The Tweet captioning the shared Tweet directs protestors to form a square when they see the police horses and horses cannot break a square.

The screenshot shows a tweet from Randy Hillier (@randyhillier) posted 13 hours ago. The text of the tweet reads: "To all people in Ottawa if you see the Heavy Horse-Form A Square and hold firm- the horses cannot not break the square, but easily push back a Line. #FreedomConvoy2022 #CometoOttawaForFreedom #cdnpoli". Below the text is a video player showing a scene with police horses and protestors. The video is partially obscured by a large black redaction box.
- Open source research has identified the following:
 - Social media messaging that provides guidance for people coming to Ottawa in support of the blockade as to how to access the city. It suggests parking in the suburbs and taking transit, and remove all flags and signs from your vehicle so that it is not vandalized and you are not targeted by police.
 - A video by the CRACKPOT FARMER in which he states that people were trampled by the police horses and there are rumours that one person died as a result. He also said that another person had a heart attack and died, but acknowledges that they were still trying to find out and hoped that nobody had actually died. He says that some of the trucks leaving Ottawa might be heading to Toronto or Montreal. He also stated that there was no shame in leaving, because they had driven the authorities to violence over a peaceful protest, and he frames that as a victory. He indicates that the protestors remaining on site are shocked and frustrated with how the government and the police chose to respond to the protest.

He also says that they have press passes that will help them access the blockade site and move around. He claims that they are working with people who they met at the blockade who have camera gear and they plan to get footage to broadcast.

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- A letter on letterhead of the JUSTICE CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOM (JCCF) addressed to the interim Chief of the Ottawa Police Service claiming that he has no authority to prevent people from attending downtown Ottawa and that his directions to police violate the Charter. The letter was shared on social media for Freedom Convoy 2022.

A legal affidavit in the civil lawsuit naming convoy organizers identifies [REDACTED] of the JCCF as counsel for the defendants ([REDACTED] *et al.*)

- An online video of a male with a ponytail who claims to be a “member”, possibly of the RCMP in Ottawa, who states that police should uphold the law and not serve the interests of the government. He implies that the police are conflicted because they have been sent out to do something that they disagree with, particularly during the pandemic. He further states that all of the charges laid related to the pandemic are being thrown out of court because they all violate the Charter. He says that “this individual in Ottawa” is about to enact the Emergencies Act against peaceful protestors, and encourages police to get “blue flu”.
- An online statement on “Freedom Convoy” letterhead stating that three convoy organizers, [REDACTED], had been detained by police but that others would fill their roles.
- A Facebook page for [REDACTED] that has no messages after 2021-12-31.
- Social media messaging in the name of Romana DIDULO indicating that she plans to leave Ottawa on 2022-02-22 en route to the east coast unless something urgent happens to keep her in Ottawa.



TORONTO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) reports a possible protest in solidarity with Ottawa residents scheduled for 2022-02-20 at Toronto City Hall. TPS continues to monitor for potential upcoming protests.

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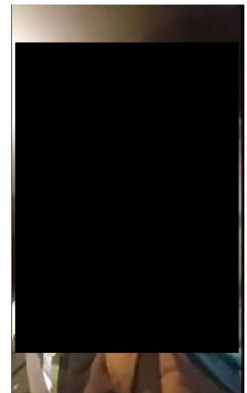
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TORONTO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- The Toronto Police Service has reported that a rally in opposition of the freedom movement convoys and blockades is planned for Queens Park on 2022-02-21, but is not garnering much interest on line.
- Open source research has identified material promoting a “STAND UP TO #TRUDEAUTYRANNY” protest at Queens Park Circle starting today at 1200 hours. The material calls for people to head to Ottawa if possible. If not, they are directed to protest locally.
- Open source research has identified social media messaging indicating that protestors need to do the same thing in Toronto as in Ottawa. It also indicates the need to have a committee to organize logistics to facilitate a long-term stay.
- Open source research on 2022-02-18 identified a video on social media in the name of [REDACTED] captioned “IT’S GO TIME”. In the video, a male states that [REDACTED] plans to come to Toronto to form a “second line”. He notes that Toronto is a major hub, so it is important to do something there. He indicates that they will do a rally and a march at Queens Park and their staging area will be at Bedford Road and Bloor Street.

It is possible that “[REDACTED]” (1000-00-111) is actually [REDACTED] the administrator for the CONVOY FOR FREEDOM TORONTO 2022 Facebook page and a Road Captain for the convoy.

- Open source research has identified social media messaging calling for protestors to travel to Toronto to “bunker down” because all of the resources are in Ottawa and Toronto has been left vulnerable. The message indicates that they will start with “Bedford”, “Bloor” and “Bay Street”.



AMBASSADOR BRIDGE:

- The Ambassador Bridge remains open and traffic is moving normally.

BLUE WATER BRIDGE:

- The Blue Water Bridge is open with no protestors on site and traffic is moving normally.

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PEACE BRIDGE:

- Police reporting indicates that a protest to close the Peace Bridge is planned for today. Police have blocked the all traffic on the QEW leading to the bridge and part of the convoy has exited the highway.
- A possible slow roll may be scheduled on 2022-02-20.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (CORNWALL):

- Police are monitoring for activity at the port of entry – no activity and little information to suggest that there could be a protest on the weekend.

LANSDOWNE BRIDGE:

- Possible protest at the bridge on 2022-02-19.

NORTHWEST REGION:

- OPP reporting has identified a potential blockade at the Nipigon River Bridge scheduled for 2022-02-26.

ONTARIO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The OPP are aware of a small convoy planned for today in Prescott. Brockville PS has been advised.
- OPP reporting indicates that a protest in support of those arrested in Ottawa on 2022-02-18 may be planned in Hawkesbury on 2022-02-21.
- OPP reporting also notes that a rally may be planned at the big flag in Windsor on 2022-02-19 at 1400 hours.
- OPP reports a possible tractor convoy into Sarnia.

ONTARIO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- No significant developments.

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OTHER

- Media reporting indicates that the US Congress has asked for information from Facebook regarding the extent to which shell Facebook accounts from abroad facilitated messaging regarding the convoy protests in Canada. The query was reportedly motivated by reporting that Facebook had discovered that some online groups promoting the convoys were created with “dummy” user profiles set up in Asia and Eastern Europe.
- The individual identified online as the hacker of the GiveSendGo donor data has reportedly received death threats.
- Open source research has identified social media messaging for two counter-protests against the freedom convoys on 2022-02-19 in Vancouver.
- Media reporting indicates that the Ontario Superior Court has issued an injunction to freeze funds raised in support of the blockade in more than 120 crypto addresses. The injunction is related to a lawsuit against blockade organizers by Ottawa residents.

ASSESSMENT

It is almost certain that the freedom movement blockades and protests represent a long-term threat to public safety and security domestically. The enforcement against protestors at the Ottawa blockade is unlikely to deter future protests supported or organized by the same individuals. Some participants and supporters of the Ottawa blockade may be looking to regroup to continue or replicate the protest elsewhere. At least one has indicated that they will plan for future events. It is likely that they will employ any lessons learned in Ottawa to any future protests.

Ongoing and future actions in support of the broader freedom movement and against the enforcement actions taken at the Ottawa blockade are almost certain. Potential targets include police personnel and buildings, as well as elected officials, particularly those who represent the federal Liberal Party or who support the invocation of the Emergencies Act. Public officials at the provincial and municipal levels may also be at risk in the short term due to the declaration of the state of emergency by the Ontario government and protest-related injunctions obtained in Ottawa and Windsor. Individuals and businesses who have publicly voiced opposition to the blockade and or related protests may also be targeted by freedom movement supporters.

Support from elected officials and religious leaders, as well as online disinformation, will continue to fuel, validate, and reinforce ideologies and conspiracy theories that appear to underpin some of the protestors' grievances and motives.

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Counter-protests against the freedom movement protestors are almost certain in the immediate and short term.

The available information suggests that foreign adversaries may have attempted to leverage the freedom movement blockades and protests to protect or enhance their own strategic economic and political interests. Previous reporting noted controversial political figures in the US voicing support for the blockades in Ottawa and Windsor, and foreign funding of the Ottawa blockade, much of it from the US. The recent reporting regarding the possible use of bogus social media accounts by foreign actors overseas to promote the blockade suggests another external influence in domestic affairs. These actors are likely to continue to exploit and aggravate extant domestic dissent. If so, their activities may represent an ongoing threat to Canada's security.

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Appendix: Anticipated Events

OTTAWA			
CURRENT SITUATION - OTTAWA			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - OTTAWA			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Kevin BILODEAU	• 3 cube trucks bringing supplies to Ottawa

TORONTO - QUEEN'S PARK			
CURRENT SITUATION - TORONTO			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - TORONTO			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1200 hrs	The Line Canada	Calling for "all individuals and organizations that oppose mandatory vaccinations are encouraged to attend"
19-Feb-22	1200 hrs	STAND UP TO #TRUDEAUTYRANNY	Queens Park Circle "NO MANDATES. NO EMERGENCIES. NO FEAR. (Head to Ottawa if you can, if you can't: protest locally)" Unknown numbers attending. Post was shared on Facebook group page "Ontario Protests and Freedom to Assemble Information Page"
19-Feb-22	1500 hrs	KKKonvoyGoHome	Counter Action/Demo Banner Drop over the DVP DVP pedestrian bridge near 450 Broadview Ave 16 people responded: 3 going, 13 interested
20-Feb-22	1300 hrs to 1500hrs	Community Solidarity TO	Hosted by Urban Alliance on Race Relations & Toronto-York Region Labour Council Coalition of Toronto labour, anti-racist and social organizations Non-confrontational rally and march Beginning at Toronto City Hall at 1300 hrs

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WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
CURRENT SITUATION - WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1400 hrs	HOLD THE LINE	• Location: Great Canadian Flag @ Windsor Waterfront • "Windsor just delayed Ambassador Bridge traffic for a week, and Castreau declared martial law. Let's talk about that."
19-Feb-22	1400 hrs	US-CANADA freedom alliance PART 1	• In Detroit, MI, USA at the GM building • Intended to be concurrent with & in support of HOLD THE LINE (see above)
19-Feb-22	U/K	U/L	• Planned demonstration in Windsor at Riverside Dr and Ouellette Ave • Protesters heading back to Ambassador Bridge due to all police being in Ottawa

NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
CURRENT SITUATION - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1300 hrs	Niagara Slow Roll	1300 hrs slow-roll - Protesters plan to join the protest at the Peace Bridge

QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE (NIAGARA ON THE LAKE)			
CURRENT SITUATION - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022	"Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022" group with mention of a potential convoy to take the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge on Feb 19th 2022. No further information.

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CORNWALL POE			
CURRENT SITUATION - CORNWALL POE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - CORNWALL POE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	U/K	Cornwall PS advising of possible protest on 19 Feb 22

OTHER AREAS / EVENTS			
OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
0630 hrs	Burlington & Toronto	Bus from Toronto to Ottawa "Freedombus"	Boarding at 0630 hrs for 0700 hrs departure from: Aldershot GO (Burlington) Islington Subway (Etobicoke) Victoria Park Subway (Scarborough) Cost: \$60/person
1200 hrs	Barrie	Support Convoy for Freedom Barrie	Meeting at 1030 hrs at 555 Bayview Dr (Sadlon Arena) Departure 1200 hrs
1300 hrs	Sarnia	Sarnia Convoy (slow roll)	75 vehicle convoy occurring in Sarnia area group plans to slow-roll through Sarnia and end shortly thereafter
1300 hrs	Dunnville / Simcoe	Dunnville Convoy	approx 120 vehicles local area
1400 hrs	Hamilton	Freedom of Choice Rally	Estimate 50-200 persons attending Michael BATOR, PPC party candidate likely to attend and deliver a speech Event from 1400 hrs to 1600 hrs
U/K	Sudbury	Sudbury Slow Roll	Protester encouraging Sudbury Slow-Roll to redirect people to protest at GSPS Unk#'s attending – GSPS aware

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OTHER EVENTS - SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
0630 hrs	Dunnville	Support for Ottawa Freedom Convoy	Bus trip planned from Dunnville Departure at 0630 hrs from Julias Bistro Estimated arrival in Ottawa at 1130 hrs Return to Dunnville, departs Ottawa at 1700 hrs Cost: \$65/person

OTHER EVENTS - MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
Week of 21 Feb 2022	Canada	FREEDOM WEEK	Week of 21 Feb 2022 Organizers associated to the Ottawa truck convoy are encouraging individuals to participate in a week of civil disobedience
U/K	Hawkesbury	Support Protest for those arrested in Ottawa	Support protest in Hawkesbury on Monday (family day) for those arrested today in Ottawa.

OTHER EVENTS - MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Canadian Embassy GM Building Detroit, Michigan, USA	US-CAN freedom alliance PART 2	Potential protest at Canadian Embassy in Detroit, MI. Unknown #'s attending.

OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
1000 hrs	Peterborough	Ontario Protests and Freedom to Assemble	Peterborough Slow Roll Meeting at Metro parking lot at 1154 Chemong Rd, Peterborough
U/K	Nipigon	Nipigon Bridge POE	Protest was scheduled for 13 Feb 2022 has been rescheduled for 26 Feb 2022

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OTHER EVENTS - UNKNOWN DATE			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Thunder Bay	Canada Unity - Operation BearHug Canada	"ThunderBay officially joined in the fun and has launched #BearHugCanada today... Strategic bridges, border crossings - 1000 tractors/farmers going to a border crossing with 5000 semis and personal vehicles." Post states it "has the potential of being another Windsor or Coutes".

Authors:	Trish Ingalls, Intelligence Analyst	Janna Bloom, Intelligence Analyst
Approved:	Brent Elbers, D/S/Sergeant	B. ELBERS
Date:	19 February 2022	

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